

Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
 MA Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
 Route 135, Westborough, MA 01581
 (508) 792-7270 x 165

RARE PLANT OBSERVATION FORM

OBSERVER INFORMATION

Observer's Name, Address, and Phone:

Arthur Haines Woodlot Alternatives, Inc., 122 Main St. Number 3
 Topsham, ME 04086 (207-729-1199)

Species Scientific Name: Caulophyllum giganteum

NHESP Element Occurrence Number (if known):

Observation Date: 19 April 2000

Today's Date: 27 April 2000

LOCATIONAL INFORMATION

a) USGS Quad Name and Series (7.5"x7.5" or 7.5"x15"): Pittsfield East (1:25,000)

County: Berkshire

Town: Pittsfield

b) Directions to location of observations (please attach USGS map):

West side of Housatonic River, along floodplain terrace, upstream of waste water treatment plant, within a narrow strip of floodplain forest, east of open pool (pool located at east edge of agricultural field).

c) Habitat: (plant communities, associated vegetation, physical characteristics, geological features, surrounding land use.
 Are other rare species present?)

Floodplain forest on terrace - rich fluvial soil, associated species: Canopy = Acer Saccharum, Prunus serotina, Tilia americana; shrub = Carpinus caroliniana, Berberis thunbergii, Lourrea Morrowii; herb = Erythronium americanum, Allium tricoccum, Dicentra cucullaria, and Elymus virginicus.

POPULATION INFORMATION:
 Population found? (Y/N): yes

If No, is population presumed extirpated and why?

If Yes,

Number of mature plants:

Number of immature plants:

Number of plants age unknown: ca. 50 stems - Just beginning to flower, the flowers are subteraceous and appear before leaves are fully formed.

Population area (give unit of measurement): 50 X 30 M

Percent of population:

in leaf: 50%

in bud: 25%

in flower: 25%

with immature fruit:

mature fruit:

senescent:

Observations of floral visitors, fruit dispersers:

None observed

Vigor of individuals and population:

Apparently vigorous

Evidence of expansion or decline:

None observed

Have you observed this species at this site in previous years?

Please give details:

NO

SITE PHYSIOGRAPHY

Elevation: *295 meters*

Topographic position (crest, upper slope, mid slope, lower slope, *bottom*):

Aspect (north, south, *east*, west, flat?):

Slope (*0-20 degrees*, 20-45 degrees, 45-75 degrees, vertical?):

Light (open, *filtered*, shade?): *Filtered light at this time as canopy not fully leafed out.*

Moisture (inundated, wet, *mesic*, dry, xeric?):

Soil types: *fluvial*

Surficial rock types (with percent of ground covered): *none observed*

Bedrock/parent material: *Presumably limestone*

Surficial water (distance away and source):

Housatonic River, c. 30 meters

MANAGEMENT/OWNERSHIP:

MNHESP Site Name (if any): *Housatonic River Valley Wildlife Management Area.*

Managed Area (if any):

Comments/Management recommendations:

Disturbance or threats (natural or unnatural) to population:

Land Owner's Name, Address, and Phone:

Ownership Comments:

ELEMENT OCCURRENCE (EO) SUMMARY
(Circle one choice in each category)

EO Quality

How representative is this occurrence? Consider the size and productivity of the population and the vitality and vigor of the individuals.

A - Excellent B - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments:

EO Condition

Is the habitat supporting the EO pristine or degraded? Is there a potential for the habitat to recover from disturbances?

A - Excellent B - Good C - Marginal D - Poor

Narrow strip of mid-age overstory trees; heavy exotic species influence in stretches

Comments:

EO Viability

What are the long-term prospects for continued existence of this occurrence at the indicated level of quality?

A - Excellent **B - Good** C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments:

EO Defensibility

Can this occurrence be protected from extrinsic human factors?

A - Excellent **B - Good** C - Marginal D - Poor

Comments: Public ownership

EO RANK

A summary of all factors listed above.

A - Excellent B - Good **C - Marginal** D - Poor

Comments:

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS (if any) Though community is reduced in size, it forms a relatively continuous corridor for many km. Other rich forest species in vicinity such as *Carex hirtifolia*, *Carex sparganioides*, *Adiantum pedatum*, and *Elymus hystrix*.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify under pains and penalties of perjury that the information contained in this report is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: *Anton Haines*

Date: 27 April 2000

Please submit form, a copy of a USGS topo map showing plant location, and all supporting documentation to the State Botanist at:

Massachusetts Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program
Division of Fisheries & Wildlife
Route 135
Westborough, MA 01581
(508) 792-7270 ext 200

Thank you for contributing to the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program database. Your efforts are valuable and appreciated.

